



CMSA

The Colleges of Medicine of South Africa NPC

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EXAMINATIONS & CREDENTIALS

CMSA DA(SA) – SS 2023

Dear candidates, tutors and faculty

NOTICE OF CHANGES TO REGULATIONS FOR SECOND SEMESTER 2023

The DA (SA) is moving to regional, in-person, competency evaluations as a **part of the examination application process**, as of the **Second Semester of 2023**. The current online written OSCE examination will fall away.

- Competency evaluations will take place directly after the CMSA entry closing date, to allow all entry administration to take place prior to the written examination. Applications will be accepted, but marked as “Pending” until the outcome of a competency evaluation is received by the CMSA. Once the competency evaluation has been successfully completed, the application will be approved and further processed for the written examination. If a candidate does not successfully complete a competency evaluation their application will be declined. **Approval of examination applications will NOT take place until proof of competency has been produced to CMSA.** (i.e. All applications from SS 2023 will require: Application form, Letter from Supervisor, Competency certification).
- All candidates who apply for the examinations will be invited to the competency evaluation. The evaluation will comprise the following skills: Airway, Adult CPR, Paediatric CPR and Machine check.
- Candidates may choose a venue at which to complete the competency evaluation on applying to enter the examination.
- Candidates will be offered two opportunities to perform the competency evaluation per examination cycle.
 - If a candidate is not competent at the initial evaluation, they must return for a subsequent re-evaluation.
 - If a candidate is not competent at the second evaluation, their application to write the exam will be declined and they will need to reapply for a future examination cycle
- Following acceptance of the candidate’s application for the written examination, the candidate will need to pass the entire written section to be awarded the DA(SA).
- Candidates must be **currently competent** at the time of the written examination. Competence is not accepted to last indefinitely, and a competency certification cannot be carried over to a subsequent examination, either fully or partially.

- Competency is a prerequisite to writing the examination. Therefore, candidates will not be admitted to the written examinations if they have not achieved the competency required to administer safe Anaesthesia. Once admitted to the written examinations, candidates will have one chance to pass, failing which, they will repeat the entire examination cycle ie the competency check and the written examinations.
- No carryover of any passed components will be allowed for the next examination. If a candidate fails an examination, the entire examination must be re-done.

College of Anaesthetists of South Africa
March 2023